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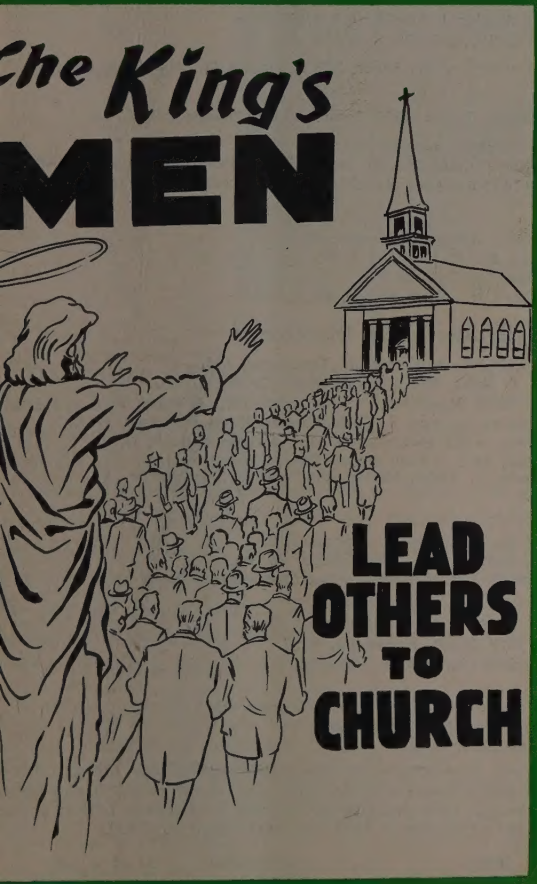
LUTHERAN MEN



October

1955

BROTHERHOOD OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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LUTHERAN MEN

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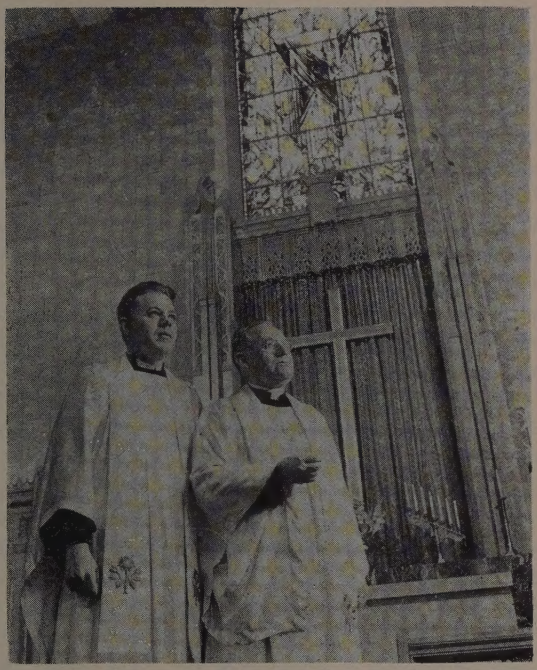
Lutheran Evangelism Mission

by ROBERT W. STACKEL



The Church Will Not Be "Disobedient Unto The Heavenly Vision." The Day For Action Has Arrived.

THE UNITED Lutheran Church in America was born for this hour. Her thirty-seven years of history are prologue for this church-wide evangelism offensive. The long years of her unification were necessary. So were the years of her structural streamlining. But now her finest hour has come—the purpose toward which all these preparatory years have pointed.

Our Church is poised to make her most redemptive contribution. She has grown to young maturity. She has equipped herself with new facilities, such as the Department of Press, Radio and Television. She has gained confidence in such mighty ventures as the Martin Luther film. Now in a massive, continent-wide witness she wants to share Christ.

Evangelism is not something new in the ULCA. Heavens, no! We have been at it for thirty-seven years. But we have come to the point where we realize that our former pace is not our fastest pace. The old patterns are too small. No greater day for Christ has ever dawned on this continent.

Dr. Stackel, formerly pastor of First Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh, took over his new duties as director of the Lutheran Evangelism Mission in New York City, August 1. Dr. Stackel's article first appeared in Dr. Franklin Clark Fry's section of the **ULCA Pastor's Desk Book** and is here reprinted with the kind permission of the author and of Dr. Fry.

The Seattle convention opened the door. It requested the Board of Social Missions "to study and prepare an intensive church-wide program of Evangelism, including the cost of executing it, to be presented to the 1954 convention of the Church for approval." Study disclosed that the ULCA is the slowest Lutheran church body in America in annual growth of baptized membership. In 1952 the average net gain per congregation from all sources was *ten* baptized members. Was this our best?

The Toronto convention thundered, "No!" It adopted unanimously a church-wide evangelism program for 1956-1957, based on the plan submitted as a guide. "It is obvious," the plan admitted, "that we need a

October 16 is Brotherhood Sunday

bigger heart and a firmer will for evangelism in our beloved Church." Originally the program was to begin January 1, 1956. This date has been advanced two months in order to prepare more thoroughly for pre-Lenten area preaching missions in 1956. The dates are November 1, 1955, to October 31, 1957. On Reformation Sunday of this year prayers prepared by the Secretary of the Church will be offered in every congregation of our Church for this Lutheran Evangelism Mission.

What This Mission is Not

There are some things that this church-wide evangelism is *not*. It is *not* a campaign for new members. We are not trying to bring them in dead or alive. (God forgive us for the dead ones we have brought in under pressure.) There are no statistical goals. It would be possible to succeed statistically but fail spiritually. First a concern must burn in our hearts for our Christless brethren. We must try harder to catch the full spirit of Calvary's love. Then the mechanics of the program are to follow. Paul must teach us to say about our countrymen, "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved" (Romans 10:1).

Then again, this church-wide evangelism is *not* a two-year spurt. We do too many things like that. True, its budget is only for two years, but its perspective is the next twenty-five. At the end of two years we shall still be accelerating. God help us to make it so at the end of ten—and twenty. No one will win America in two years. But we can strike a new pace and hold it for Christ. There is no period at the end of this program. Only a comma.

Once more, this program is *not* a light-weight operation. I received a letter from a paper-napkin manufacturer asking for consideration of his paper napkins in our venture. There is a paper-napkin level of evangelism. You will not find it in the Toronto plan. This Lutheran Evangelism Mission is a hard-hiting program made up of the solidest elements of effective Christian evangelism. Mix together evangelistic preaching, training church members for lay visitation, planning with congregational leaders

for year-round evangelism, teaching pastors new approaches, and winning back the lapsed members. There's more than paper napkin to this. It has the gospel hardness of the cross itself.

We are Hungry for the Mission

The United Lutheran Church is hungry for such a Mission. Consider this wonder: An institute to train leaders for regional missioner school was held in June at Chicago Seminary. Two hundred mimeographed invitations were mailed out on short notice to some of the busiest and best of our pastors all over America. How many do you suppose came? A normal response might be 20 per cent. A superlative response might be 40 per cent to a mimeographed invitation. But 130 came! The walls bulged. Why? Because the ULCA has been waiting for this day.

The pilot missions are another exhibit. They have brought a resurrection from the dead. Call the roll of area preaching missions held as pilot projects: Salisbury, N. C.; York, Pa.; Omaha, Neb.; Phoenix, Ariz., and others. Marvelous participation was achieved. Incredible results followed. Why? Because people are hungry for it.

We are Prepared for the Mission

From top to bottom the ULCA has cleared the track for this Mission. The officers of the Church have torn huge chunks of time from their Atlas-schedules to help guide its planning. The Committee of Executive Secretaries has agreed to withhold field visits of staff members from any mission areas during the intensive period of a mission. The Conference of Synodical Presidents moved to strengthen synodical evangelism structures for this program. The *Christian Stewardship Bulletin* of the Lutheran Laymen's Movement has graciously offered alternate monthly issues to the church-wide evangelism program under the new name *Evangelism and Stewardship Bulletin*. It remains for every pastor and church council to clear the track in the congregation for the evangelism express in the next two years.

There will be approximately 200 area preaching missions across the continent in 1956 and 1957. Isolated churches will hold individual missions. Every congregation will be

Support the King's Men Program

reached. Schedules are now jelling. Fresh evangelism materials are rolling off the press. The first missions within the program are already organizing: Allentown Conference, Wilkes-Barre Conference, and Pottsville Conference, of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania; Eastern Conference of the North Carolina Synod; Spokane, Washington; San Francisco, Calif., and others.

The full staff of eight regional directors has been chosen to serve under the director. Most of them actually entered the work on October 1. It has been called "a young man's team." There is just the right blend of experience and energy. The two evangelism staff men of the Board of

"A Young Man's Team"
Regional Directors Who This Summer Studied at Green Lake, Wisconsin

Front row, left to right: Pastors W. A. Mehlenbacher, Director for Canada (Region 8); J. A. Keisler, for Southeast States (Region 3); Vernon Hess, for Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky-Tennessee, Michigan (Region 4); Walter Bock, for New York and New England, Pennsylvania Ministerium and New Jersey (Region 1); Ross Hidy, for Pacific Southwest, Pacific and Rocky Mountain (Region 7).

Standing: Pastors Clifton M. Weihe, Associate Director; William Swarbrick, Director for Iowa, Illinois and Northwest (Region 5); Robert W. Stackel, Director of the Program; George A. Housewright, for Texas-Louisiana and Central States (Region 6); E. Dale Click, Associate Director; Francis J. Myers, for Central Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia.

Social Missions have been loaned to the program for the duration. The Toronto plan is largely the product of the staff of the Board of Social Missions, headed by the Rev. C. Franklin Koch, D.D. Still in the offing is a full-time director of public relations to aid in winging the Word across the continent. Supervising all is an Administrative Committee of fifteen men and women, laity and pastors, gathered from over the United States and Canada.

Weaknesses and Problems

One of the weaknesses of evangelism in our Church in the past is that we have not reached out, as we might have, to all kinds and conditions of men. We have confined ourselves in some instances to winning those of Lutheran background. In the whole year 1952 our congregations averaged a net gain of only 4.6 baptized members from all non-Lutheran sources. Today's opportunity bursts this narrow concept. Every soul needs the Savior. We witness to the Jew, to the American Indian, to the Negro, to the immigrant, to those in the neighborhood around the church, to the high and the low, to the somebodies and the nobodies. We

witness to all. "I have become all things to all men," Paul advised, "that I might by all means save some." Count the "all's" in that statement. This is the only kind of evangelism the cross knows.

Such all-embracing evangelism increases in importance as the population grows. The United States provides an example. In 1954 the net gain in the population of the United States was 2,800,000. By 1957 the population is estimated to total 198,000,000. The Church that has a clear witness to Christ and an all-inclusive embrace of love will have a harvest beyond precedent.

There is going to be a problem involving pastors in this Mission. Many able pastors will be called on several times within the next two years to be missioners. Church councils may balk. Congregations may wonder. A job of interpretation is required to council and congregation. Special sacrifices toward this special church-wide Mission will be necessary from many pastors. Some pastors may be tempted to abuse this privilege by being away from their congregations too often. Some may be tempted to neglect this privilege by not sharing their abilities enough. Let the Holy Spirit counsel. He led us into this plan. He will apportion the pastor-power vital to it, as we yield to Him.

Standards of Success and Failure

What standards should measure the success or failure of this Lutheran Evangelism Mission? Would a million new members in two years scream its success? Not necessarily! Consider, rather, two searching questions: 1. How many members in our congregations, led by their pastors, will be *working* evangelists at the end of two years? 2. What will the United Lutheran Church do to intensify an aggressive, church-wide evangelism after October 31, 1957? Will the Harrisburg convention, in other words, take up the ball? There it is—in the fine and in the large. The test is as local as the individual congregation and as large as the whole Church. It is inconceivable that, after two exhilarating years of continent-wide witnessing, we should collapse back to the old pace. God save us from a two-year success followed by a decade with no plan. A preaching mission can be held normally in the same area every two years. One will not last for a generation. The toxin of inertia is slow death. But toxin can be spelled two ways. The tocsin of God is calling us to new strategies and new offensives.

The Lutheran Church has theology in abundance—theology to burn. The Lutheran Church has glorious heritage enough to burn. As Lutherans we have stability to burn. It would be sin for anyone of us to predict any limitation to the Lutheran Evangelism Mission of 1956-1957. The gush of the Holy Spirit cannot be metered. If we are used by the Spirit in this Mission, no human being can encompass the results in forethought. Prayer renders us usable by the Holy Spirit. Two years on our knees in daily prayer for this Mission will lift

any limitation from it.

I wrote this on the eve of leaving for Green Lake, Wisconsin, where our staff in early August shaped itself into a co-ordinated team to take the field for Christ. We shall make mistakes in this Mission. We, too, have feet of clay. But our hearts burn for Christ, and our minds crave His enthronement. To us is committed a radiant responsibility. By His grace and Spirit, aided by your prayers, we march forth together toward the day when we shall love Christ as Christ loves us.

●

1955 BROTHERHOOD SUNDAY APPEAL

for

Konnarock Station Wagon and King's Men - Evangelism Program

Action taken by the ULCA Brotherhood administrative committee on September 17 in the Church House in New York City explains how the funds received in response to the Brotherhood Sunday appeal will be used.

This is the action:

"That all receipts from congregational Brotherhoods in response to the 1955 Brotherhood Sunday appeal be divided, after the expenses of the appeal have been deducted, equally (that is, between the station wagon fund and the King's Men - Evangelism Program) until $1,500 has been attained for the station wagon, and that all further receipts be allocated to the King's Men - Evangelism program."

Letter of Thanks from Konnarock, Virginia

Dear Mr. Earle Bader:

This is to acknowledge with deep appreciation and thankfulness your letter of August 4 informing me that the United Lutheran Church in America Brotherhood Executive Committee has approved the suggestion that the Brotherhood contribute $1,500 to the Board of American Missions for a new station wagon for the Iron Mountain Lutheran Boys School.

I would like to express to the Brotherhood, through you, their executive secretary, my own deep personal gratitude for this assistance in our work, as the original Iron Mountain Lutheran School for Roys was the project of the United Lutheran Church of America Brotherhood. I am aware, too, of the deep personal interest on your part in the past years in this project, and of the outstanding service rendered by you in the liquidation of the indebtedness on the original Iron Mountain School for Boys.

As you state that the contribution of $1,500 will come from the Brotherhood Sunday services, which are annually observed in October, I will make preparations to replace our old Dodge station wagon with a new station wagon, and if necessary provide for the trade-in of $1,500 until such time as the $1,500 check can be made available to the Board of American Missions for the above-named project.

Please express my appreciation to the officials of the Executive Committee of the Brotherhood for this needed help in our mission work. With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,
C. Ross Ritchie

Honorary Life Memberships

by PHARES G. BEER

A Lutheran Vacation

This article is written from the Konnarock Lutheran School, where the author is spending a week's vacation. On a rainy afternoon the former superintendent of Southern Mountain Work, Pastor A. Kenneth Hewitt, D.D., and the author visited the house adjoining the school property where in December, 1924, the first Konnarock Lutheran school was opened with an enrollment of five children. This house was rented from the Douglas estate then owned by Mrs. Corinne Roosevelt Robinson, a sister of President Theodore Roosevelt, and her children, and occupied by them as a summer home for many years.

In 1925 a beautiful chestnut-bark-covered building equipped with modern class rooms, dining hall, kitchen, office and chapel was erected on the site donated by Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Hassinger. On December 15, 1925, the Konnarock Training School was opened with twenty girls as boarding students and seven boys as day students.

The school was established by the Women's Missionary Society of the United Lutheran Church in America as "a Christian Industrial School for Boys and Girls in the Southern Appalachians," with the purpose "to give adequate home and Christian training to children who may in turn be leaders in their mountain districts."

Realizing the need for an educated young manhood in these mountains, the Brotherhood of the United Lutheran Church in America in 1931 purchased some 1,200 acres of land and established the Iron Mountain School for boys as a companion school to the Konnarock Training School. The Iron Mountain School is located near the Southern Mountain Administration Building, Medical Center, Saint Matthew's Church and its newly erected parsonage. The girls' school is one mile east of the boys' school.

With the development of state elementary schools in the isolated mountain areas, in 1938 the Konnarock Training School and the Iron Moun- School were raised to the high school level and have operated as such ever since. In 1951 the two schools were co-ordinated into one unit, the Konnarock Lutheran School. In addition to meeting the state high school requirements, the school requires all students to take courses in Bible, leadership training and music. Courses in homemaking, nursing, sanitation, sewing and cooking are

required of the girls, and courses in agriculture, mechanics, manual train- and electrical work are required of the boys.

Mrs. Mildred H. Deal, A.B., is the principal of the Konnarock Lutheran School, and other teachers are Miss Treva Miller, Miss Dove Toll, Miss Rachel Neubert, Mrs. Charles Wieland, Pastor Rudolf Ludwig, A.B., B.D., and Charles Wieland.

The station wagon used to transport the boys from their dormitory in the Iron Mountain school building to the Konnarock Training School and also used continuously for many other purposes is worn out and the Executive Committee of the Brotherhood of the United Lutheran Church in America at its recent meeting in Philadelphia took action to appeal to all the Brotherhoods of our church

October 16 is Brotherhood Sunday

for a large Brotherhood Sunday offering with which to purchase a new station wagon for Iron Mountain School.

Scores and scores of mountain girls and boys have had deep impressions of Christ and His way of life stamped on their souls as they have passed through this Christian school.

In the past few years more than fifty per cent of the Konnarock Lutheran School graduates have gone to college and other training schools. Graduates from the school have become leaders throughout the church as well as in the mountain area itself. Many are now parents of Christian families in their own mountain communities.

With the growth and development of the school at Konnarock came the establishment of mountain mission congregations in the isolated areas of the southern mountains. Scattered throughout the Appalachians from Bland, Virginia, to Andrews, North Carolina, there are now twenty-two mountain mission congregations in eight parishes.

Kenneth G. Killinger, a native of the southern mountains and at present the pastor of the Attoway Lutheran parish, has given his entire life in service to the mountain people. It was Pastor Killinger who first called the attention of the church to the need for mountain mission work.

Learning of the great need for medical service in the southern mountains, the Luther League of America established the Konnarock Medical Center in 1940. This medical center would be considered a credit to any community and is operated with the finest Christian spirit by Doctor and Mrs. Heinz C. Meyer. Approximately 8,000 patients are treated here annually. Twelve miles from Konnarock is the Helton Lutheran Health Center, under the direction of Sister Sophia Miller, R.N.

All of the Southern Mountain work is under the direction of Pastor C. Ross Ritchie, D.D., who resides at Konnarock, Virginia. He is kept busy giving guidance to the eight parishes, one or more of which are usually vacant; the educational work, the medical work and the clothing relief

work carried on from the administration building. He is ably assisted by his secretary, Miss Beatrice Anderson, a native of Cameron, Wisconsin.

Inadvertently in the article on Honorary Life Memberships in the July issue of LUTHERAN MEN the name Marion W. Trotti had a "Miss" before it, which was our mistake. It should have read J. Marion Trotti. We sincerely thank Mr. Trotti for this correction and ask his forgiveness. We also congratulate him and his family for having two members of their family honored with Life Memberships in the same year, one the father, Marion W. Trotti, in the Brotherhood, and the other, a son, James Franklin Trotti, in the Women's Missionary Society.

We also congratulate Joseph A. Clarke, the co-director of the Honorary Life and In Memoriam memberships for the Central Conference Brotherhood of the New York and New England synodical Brotherhood, for sending out a letter to each pastor and the president of each men's organization of his conference challenging them to give Honorary Life and In Memoriam memberships. We are always eager to learn of any other secretaries or directors that are making such challenges.

memo

from the desk of

EARLE W. BADER

√—This is our last reminder to observe Brotherhood Sunday on October 16.

√—Don't forget the $15,000 Anniversary Offering for the King's Men Evangelism Program.

√—Please read my King's Men Message in this issue—then "Witness"—"Invite"—"Bring others to Christ!"

Shock-Proof

It is a misfortune that many people think it is a mark of saintliness to be easily shocked; whereas the greatest saints are the people who are never shocked: They may be distressed; they may wish things different; but to be shocked is often nothing but a mark of vanity; a desire that others should know how high one's standard, how sensitive one's conscience is.

—A. C. Benson
in **Reader's Digest**

Will we ever get the laity trained to understand that we are shock-proof? One of my pet peeves is the person who says: "I guess I shouldn't say this to you. You'll be shocked because you're a minister." This sort of thing is always a temptation to me—a temptation to commit blasphemy.

—Nelson Waite Rightmyer,
in **Pulpit Digest**

Education for Living

by EARL S. RUDISILL

Christ in You

Why does life have so little meaning for some people? Why are some without a desire for worship? Why do some show their disregard for humanity rather than love for people? Why do some violate the moral code in a shameless way?

In these and parallel cases people have not given Christ the supreme place in their lives that he deserves and which would be a blessing to them. He is not understood or cherished as the Savior from sin or as the major motivation in life. Love is not directed to him by such persons, and of them it cannot be said that the love of Christ constrains them.

Occasionally one meets an individual who by sheer resolution and determination is living a rather good life in a negative or mild manner, and is doing some commendable things. Such goodness, however, is usually rather formal and restricted. It does not include a burning enthusiasm for taking the gospel to the far parts of the earth, planting churches in the home land, or supporting a rescue mission. It has little or no concern about teaching Christ to little children or other age groups. It fails to see the beauty of the Christmas story or the significance of Easter. It has no passion for the kingdom of God. The "moral man" falls short in many ways—he hasn't allowed Christ to enter his life and rule it.

When Christ is in one's life a person has much more than a humanistic outlook. A humanist believes humans can do everything for themselves and do not need God. But the Christ-centered person has a Godlike love for all people, races, colors, and classes. He wants all to have Christ and the Christian type of life.

A Christ-possessed person is eager for the fellowship with God and man which we experience in worship, both private and public. He knows his frailty, is sorry for his transgressions, confesses them, and reaches out for pardon and an amended life.

Such an individual is not content to seek and receive benefits for self. He craves them for all types of mankind. He is ready to pray and work for the welfare of others. Evangelism in the congregation appeals to him and he wants to do his part.

Christian love prompts one to want the best forms of Christian education for all ages of people. It helps one to see the infinite value of each person and the limitless possibilities which reside in people.

With Christ in us we want to live

as did Christ—in our homes, churches, communities, and in all society. When he has the central place in us he moves us to act upon his invitation, "Follow me," and that involves just about everything.

With him ruling our lives by love we experience a mighty pull toward all that is holy and good. We can't be satisfied without worship and without serving him and humanity. We want to pass God's love on to others.

How do we measure up to such an ideal?

●

Boy Scouts

by GEORGE A. EICHLER

Filmstrip on Scouting

We are happy to announce that five copies of a new color filmstrip with recorded narration on the scouting program in Protestant churches have been secured and are ready for distribution at a rental price of $1.50 including postage. This film presents in a clear, concise way the basic principles of scouting. It emphasizes how the scouting program is designed to be a resource of the church, integrating easily into the administration and educational program of the local congregation.

The filmstrip is excellent for informing pastors and lay leaders about the essential elements concerning the relationship of scouting to Christian education. Local Brotherhoods will find the filmstrip a valuable aid in promoting scouting in the local congregation. It contains 64 frames and takes about twelve minutes to show. Write to Headquarters in Bethlehem if you are interested.

Reprints of "Declaration of Interdependence," between the local church and the Boy Scouts of America, a sound partnership for the boyhood of America, are also available for distribution. This is an excellent article published earlier in *Scouting Magazine* and written by Dr. A. E. Iverson, a Lutheran pastor and at present National Director of Protestant Relationships, BSA. It emphasizes that the Boy Scouts do not compete with basic institutions such as the church but co-operate with them. The article tells how this is done.

This is the lapel button which **Pro Deo et Patria** award winners are permitted to wear. Mothers of award holders are also allowed to wear this button.

Message from Headquarters

by EARLE W. BADER

The King's Men Program—All Set To Go!

October is the zero hour for the King's Men program. After months of careful planning, and numerous pilot tests in all types of congregations, this program which was developed in co-operation with The Board of Social Missions is now ready to be launched on a church-wide basis. No other program of the Brotherhood has received such wholehearted response and enthusiastic commendation from pastors and laymen alike.

Nothing has been overlooked to make this program a great success. Our synodical, conference and congregational officers have participated in numerous King's Men workshops. During the past month these leaders were alerted for immediate action by personal contacts and through the mails. The evangelism committee in each synod is prepared to suggest qualified speakers and furnish all possible assistance to individual congregations and Brotherhood groups. You are undoubtedly aware that we have everything necessary to promote a King's Men crusade in your congregation. These specific aids include the King's Men brochure, visitation materials, posters, church attendance tracts, report cards, and audio-visual aids. We invite you to write to Brotherhood Headquarters for a sample kit of printed materials, which will be mailed promptly and without charge. Each pastor and congregational Brotherhood should have received the 1955 Brotherhood Sunday material which emphasizes evangelism and the King's Men program.

But all of these preparations, and the splendid materials will not have served their purpose unless you decide to act NOW! With all of the sincerity at our command, we appeal to the hearts and minds of our Brotherhood members to encourage their pastors and church councils to promote a King's Men crusade in every congregation where an area evangelism mission is not scheduled this fall. Your church will be better prepared for the area mission if it puts on the King's Men program beforehand.

Make no mistake about it, the King's Men program will deepen the spiritual life of your congregation, increase your church attendance, bring new vitality to your auxiliaries, and help us win 10,000 new and reclaimed members during the present biennium.

If you are still skeptical and unconvinced, let me assure you that the

King's Men program has proven most successful wherever it has been tried. One congregation that has used it three times, reports that 83 per cent of its communing members attended the worship services. It has helped other congregations and it will certainly help yours, too.

Finally, my brethren, as you go forward in this venture in faith, remember that you are not going alone, for the Master with his infinite power and grace will be walking by your side.

Yours will be a glorious victory if you have the faith and courage to prove the words of our Brotherhood hymn,

"By prayer and asking we may fill
The Church each Lord's Day, if
we will."

●

The Man Who Sold Hot Dogs

There was a man who lived by the side of the road and sold hot dogs.
He was hard of hearing, so he had no radio.
He had trouble with his eyes, so he read no newspapers.
But he sold good hot dogs.
He put signs up on the highway telling how good they were..
He stood by the side of the road and cried, "Buy a hot dog, mister."
People bought.
He increased his meat and bun orders.
He bought a bigger stove to take care of his trade.
He finally got his son home from college to help him out.
But then something happened.

His son said: "Father, haven't you been listening to the radio? There's a big depression coming on. The European situation is terrible. The domestic situation is worse."

So the father thinks: "Well, my son's been to college, he reads the papers and he listens to the radio. He ought to know."

So the father cut down his meat and bun order, took down his advertising signs, and no longer bothered to stand out by the highway to sell his good hot dogs. Sales fell fast, almost overnight."

"You're right, son," the father said to the boy. "We certainly are in the middle of a great depression. There just isn't any business."

—Augustana Churchmen

(The Brotherhood isn't selling hot dogs, but its men are either "selling" or "unselling" the Brotherhood by their enthusiasm, or lack of it.)

It's Never a Mistake—

To tell a man how clever or smart or interesting he is.
To say "I don't know" if you really don't.
To ask the advice of an expert.
To inquire about grandchildren.
To take the time and trouble to put another person at ease.
To listen politely to a child.
To pay an older woman a compliment.
To praise your husband or wife for the qualities you most want him or her to have.
To let the host as well as the hostess know you had a fine time.
To say "I'm sorry" even when the other person is in the wrong.
To tell a man you value his opinion.
To tell a parent something complimentary about his child.
To guess a woman's age as five years under what it could possibly be.

—Sunshine Magazine

The Prophetic Voice

To a distinguished Christian layman, Mr. B. E. Hutchison, Vice-President of the Chrysler Corporation, we are indebted for the following significant expression:

"Holy Writ is a record of what the prophets and not what the Sanhedrin had to say."

That pungent remark carries a message for our times. This is an age dominated by committees and organizations in which the free expression of private opinion carries little weight. Individual insights are pooled and reduced to the level of a common denominator and then widely circulated.

Ministers may, and of course do, preach their convictions, but the widely publicized documents of the church come from boards, committees, groups and councils.

If Moses had taken a committee with him to the heights of Sinai, could God have conveyed to all its members the insights of the Ten Commandments, or would not some of them have failed to agree, and have insisted on watering down that great document or adding a minority report?

What would have been the result if Christ had appointed a committee to draw up the Sermon on the Mount or if Paul had appointed a drafting committee to prepare the Pauline Epistles? What group ever could have given us the spiritual illumination of St. John's Gospel?

The great pronouncements of Elijah, Isaiah and other prophets did not come from conferences. Could a committee have agreed upon the 95 theses of Martin Luther?

The lawgivers, prophets, sages and philosophers of history have been individuals and not committees. What is the lesson for us as we consider this fact of history?

To us, it is that we dare not silence the voices of individuals who seek to speak their insights, by always subjecting what they say to the adulterating process of sifting it through a committee. Boards and councils we must have to carry on organized work, but we must be careful not to use them as instrumentalities for blunting the message and diluting the vision of our prophets and seers.

Prophets communicate to us great religious truths. Councils reduce them to creeds. Individuals inspire us; councils and committees prescribe limitations and control us. We must have both but we must be careful not to limit the clear vision of the individual prophet by the myopia of the committee. Too much organization can deaden inspiration and institutionalize it to the point of destroying its dynamic power. Busy church bureaucrats may build a web which deadens or silences the most prophetic voices among us.

As it is wise strictly to limit the powers and functions of secular government, so it is equally wise in

church organization watchfully to keep the bureaucracy carefully limited in scope and power. Let it never over-shadow the gifted souls into whose east windows come flooding new inspirations and fresh messages from God.

—*Christian Economics*

The Pause

Picture in your mind the usual busy downtown street scene on a Saturday afternoon—the whirring of trolleys, the grinding of gears, racing motors, honking horns, and the shrill tones of the traffic policeman's whistle; on the sidewalks the shuffle of feet and the babble of voices of hundreds of hurrying shoppers. Into such a scene as this there came a young man—groping his way cautiously with a white cane, for he was blind. Across his chest he carried an accordion. As he reached a spot in front of a popular department store he stopped. He began to play, and then to sing.

As the first words of his song rang out, a strange hush silenced the babbling throng. For he sang not as the usual blind beggar, but like some great concert singer in a large auditorium. The rich timbre of his voice made little thrills run up and down one's spine. At the first words of his song, "*Our Father, which art in heaven,*" there was an earnestness in his voice that made you feel he was singing directly from his heart.

The traffic light turned from green to red, and all the cars on the street stood still. The song went on to "*Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done—*" and the awesome hush remained. Then the traffic light turned from red to green, yet not a car moved, not a horn was sounded, as the singer finished with the words "*for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever—*"

For the space of a deep breath after the "*Amen*" there was quiet—then an audible sigh—and traffic began to move again, and the babble of voices was resumed. Reverently uttered through the vocal organs of a humble, blind singer, the prayer of the Nazarene had stopped traffic at the boasted "Crossroads of America."

—Hugh M. Jones
in *Nuggets*

Preaching

Preaching is not merely a matter of trying to induce generalized decisions for Jesus Christ on the part of particular individuals. It is also a matter of helping the Church to reach specific decisions about its life as part of the people of God. It is also more than an invocation of the memory of an absent Lord or the recapitulation of the broad outlines of the meaning of His work. It is the realization of the presence in the midst of the living Christ, whose Word is still mighty to the casting down of strongholds and who is still able to bring every thought of His wayward disciples into His captivity.

—Daniel Jenkins in
The Strangeness of the Church
(Doubleday)

News

Brotherhood Convention Stresses The King's Men Program

Zeb Trexler, Concord, N. C., associate secretary of the Lutheran Laymen's Movement and formerly president of the ULCA Brotherhood, was the principal speaker at the opening rally of the annual convention of the Brotherhood of the Pittsburgh Synod on Sept. 9 at Camp Lutherlyn.

"You are your brother's keeper" was the convention theme, based upon the ULCA Brotherhood's emphasis on the King's Men program of evangelism.

A panel discussion on the King's Men was led by Lysle P. Shaffer, New Brighton, vice president of the synodical Brotherhood. Panel speakers were the Rev. Charles F. Brobst, Telford, chairman of the ULCA Brotherhood Committee on Evangelism and one of the originators of the King's Men program; the Rev. Edward K. Rogers, secretary of evangelism and stewardship of the Pittsburgh Synod; Nevin R. Snyder, president of the Brotherhood of the Greensburg Conference and chairman of the Department of Evangelism of the synodical Brotherhood.

October 16 is Brotherhood Sunday

The Rev. Lester M. Utz, Emmanuel Church, Bellevue, and member of the Executive Committee of the ULCA Brotherhood, presented a filmstrip, "The King's Men Doing the King's Business."

Speaker at the fellowship banquet was the Rev. William F. Pfeifer, Jr., First Lutheran Church, Greensburg.

●

LWF Aide To Teach at Hamma Divinity School

Dr. Julius Igor Bella, Lutheran World Federation representative who has resided in Geneva since the Communist government expelled him from Czechoslovakia in 1949, has been named associate professor of exegetical theology in Hamma Divinity School at Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio.

A native of Czechoslovakia, Dr. Bella was pastor of Holy Trinity Slovak Lutheran Church in Bridgeport, Conn., from 1922 to 1947. From 1937 to 1947 he was also president of the Slovak Zion Synod of the ULCA.

LWA Plans Sessions To Spur Appeal for $2,962,000

A nation-wide series of workshops and rallies has been scheduled by Lutheran World Action for September, October and November to promote this year's appeal for $2,962,000.

Daytime workshops will consist of sessions with LWA directors, nearby pastors and key lay leaders. Evening rallies, where held, will include people from all the congregations in the area.

Speakers will include Dr. Paul C

Empie, executive director of the NLC; Dr. Edwin Moll, former director of the Near East Branch of the LWF; the Rev. Rollin G. Shaffer, promotional secretary of LWA and the NLC; and Dr. Frank M. Brown, LWA director for the ULCA. Mr. Shaffer is general chairman of the workshop series, now planned for 21 areas.

Congress Appropriates $15,000,000 Toward Relief Shipment Costs

A Congressional appropriation of $15,000,000 for reimbursement of ocean freight costs on relief shipments by voluntary agencies was greeted in New York as a substantial help to future activities of Lutheran World Relief, the material aid agency of the National Lutheran Council.

Congress voted $13,000,000 in the mutual security appropriation to assist voluntary agencies in transporting government-donated surplus food to needy people abroad, and an additional $2,000,000 to reimburse ocean freight costs on shipments of relief supplies gathered by the agencies themselves.

According to Carl F. Lorey, administrative secretary of Lutheran World Relief, government reimbursement of ocean freight in the past has been a substantial help to the agency in moving large quantities of supplies to overseas countries.

●

Brotherhood Rally Winside, Nebr.

On Sunday night, Aug. 14, forty men from six churches met in Trinity Lutheran Church, Winside, Nebr., for a panel discussion on the subject, "Midland College Appeal."

Marvin Johansen, St. Paul's, Wayne, was moderator, with Lester Bargstadt, Christ Lutheran, Pierce, speaking on the subject, "Why Choose Midland." Carl Schroeder, St. Mark's, Bloomfield, spoke on "You Can Keep it a Church College"; Dean Pierson, Redeemer, Wayne, on "Building Needs and Costs"; Elmer Monk, president of the Northeast Conference Brotherhood, on "Ways and Means."

Similar rallies were held in the nine districts of the Northeast Conference during August, each using the same topics. The meeting at Winside

Support the King's Men Program

was one of the first half in the Central States Synod as a kickoff on the building program voted for at the conventions of the supporting synods last spring. Of the $1,500,000 program, Central States Synod has a share of $750,000. Work is scheduled to begin in November. The Brotherhood thought they should give their immediate and total support to this challenge.

President of Trinity's Brotherhood, John Redel, led the devotional service, assisted by M. W. Barner reading the Bible and Elmer Monk offering prayer. Pastor M. W. Peterson introduced the moderator. Lunch was served by wives of Brotherhood members.

Visiting pastors were Henry Knaub, Bloomfield; S. K. deFreese, Wayne; W. G. Volker, Wayne, and H. J. Kiekhoff, Pierce. Towns included in the district are Spencer, Niobrara, Lindy, Bloomfield, Pierce, Allen, Wayne and Winside.

●

New York Brotherhood Sponsors Appeal for Benevolent Causes

The Brotherhood of the United Lutheran Synod of New York and New England is sponsoring its first synod-wide appeal for benevolent causes this month.

Co-operating in the appeal, under the direction of Clarence L. Neun, assistant director of the synodical Brotherhood's Extension Committee and vice president of the synodical Brotherhood, will be members of the Extension Committees of the seven conference Brotherhoods in the synod and the synodical Extension Committee.

Proceeds of the campaign will be divided equally between the confidential fund of the president of the synod and the synodical Brotherhood Committee on Boy Scouts. All affiliated Brotherhoods, organized men's groups, pastors, and laymen in the synod will be asked to co-operate in raising the quota of $1,000.

●

American Federation of Lutheran Brotherhoods

The 15th biennial conference of the American Federation of Lutheran

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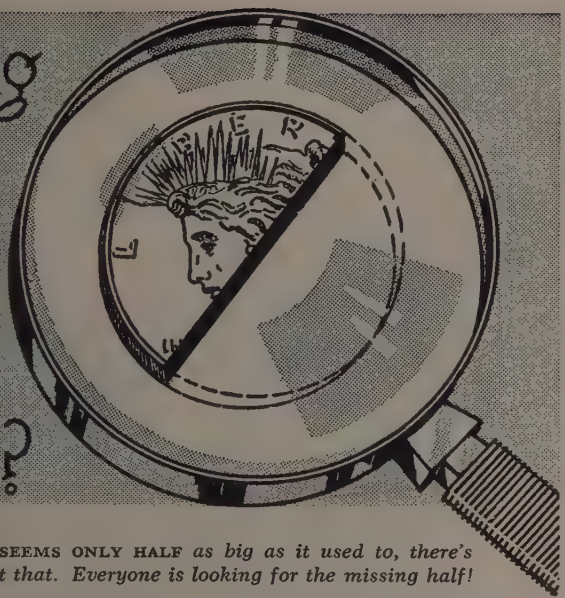

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Brotherhoods will be held on Nov. 4-6 in Spring Mill Inn, Mitchell, Indiana.

October 16 is Brotherhood Sunday

Brotherhood Plans Crusade For 425,000 Lapsed Members

Directing its efforts toward the 425,000 lapsed members within the Church, the Brotherhood of the United Lutheran Church in America has announced that its King's Men Church attendance program will be conducted from September through December in congregations not scheduled for area evangelism missions.

Dr. Charles F. Brobst, Telford, Pa., chairman of the Evangelism Committee of ULCA Brotherhood, issued the formal announcement.

"Every congregation in the ULCA is invited to conduct the King's Men program from September through December," Dr. Brobst said. "Where the King's Men program has been used, attendance has increased from 23 to 118 per cent. Activities of congregational auxiliaries have improved proportionately."

Congregations are urged to write Brotherhood headquarters in Bethlehem, Pa., for a church attendance kit and a filmstrip and record for use in the King's Men program.

J. H. Oetgen, corresponding secretary of the ULCA Brotherhood Evangelism Committee and member of the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer of Atlanta, pointed out that the King's Men crusade is an adjunct to regular congregational evangelism.

"The King's Men program complements individual congregational evangelism and the forthcoming evangelism program of the United Lutheran Church in America," he said. "Records show 29.69 per cent of our members are inactive. That's about 90 in the average ULCA congregation of 300. It is those 90 in each church we are aiming to reach."

Support the King's Men Program

Acquittal Voted in Second Milwaukee Heresy Trial

The Rev. John Gerberding, 33-year-old pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran Church at Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, was cleared in Milwaukee of heresy when a seven-member trial committee unanimously voted acquittal on seven charges and dismissed an eighth charge.

The second heresy trial in the 60-year history of the Northwest Synod of the ULCA followed closely after the first trial, in which a friend of Pastor Gerberding, The Rev. George P. Crist, Jr., 31, was found guilty of deviation from church doctrine.

Blessed Event

Tommy came to school loaded with bubble gum which he passed out to classmates and a surprised teacher.

He explained: "I just became a brother last night."

Turn About

Mother: "Do you know what happens to little girls who tell things that are not true?"

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The Congregation and Her Officers

by OSCAR A. BENSON

Author

The author of this month's Brotherhood topic is one of the most outstanding leaders of the Lutheran Church in America.

Dr. Oscar A. Benson has been president of the Augustana Lutheran Church since 1951. From 1940 to 1949 he was president of the Illinois Conference of his church. During the interim between these presidencies he was pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Dr. Benson is a graduate of Upsala College and the University of Pittsburgh. He received his Ph.D. degree from the latter institution and was awarded the D.D. degree by Upsala College in 1943.

Since February 1953 Dr. Benson has been president of the National Lutheran Council. From 1950 to 1952 he was president of the American Lutheran Conference. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the Lutheran World Federation, and attended the constituting convention at Lund in 1947. He was also a delegate to the convention at Hannover in 1952.

A LIVING, growing church requires efficient administration. The early Christians discovered that fact soon after Pentecost. Promptly they held a conference and selected "seven men of good repute," who became the very first church council (*Acts 6:1-6*). Since that day it has been a matter of course for every congregation to have an administrative board, by whatever name it has been designated.

Organization Is Important

Everything in the New Testament indicates that God is a God of order and that he wishes his church to conduct its business in the most competent manner possible. Anarchy and caprice are not to be confused with democracy, and yet there are in every congregation those who resent having to recognize any authority. For that reason it is necessary for men of the church to know just how the congregation is governed, and to be prepared to contribute their share to making the organization effective.

The names given to church officers vary among the Protestant denominations, and even within the Lutheran

Editorial Committee

Arthur H. Getz, D.D., chairman; Charles E. Johnson, C. Oscar Leonardson, Carl E. Schock, S. M. Brock, George O. Koponen. Brotherhood topics are prepared under the auspices of The American Federation of Lutheran Brotherhoods.

hurch. There are deacons, elders, ouncilmen, vestrymen, and trustees, s well as boards and councils. How-ver, the basic purpose and func-ions are similar. In general, the hurch officers are to see to it that he work of the congregation is done decently and in order."

Essential Qualifications

Just as a "team player" is more aluable to an athletic team than a tar who is primarily concerned bout his individual record, so a ain requirement of a church officer s that he can work with other board embers. He must be the kind of an who can yield to others' opin-ons without resentment when he inds himself in the minority. On the ther hand, he will be of little value o the board of the church if he lacks he courage to state his honest con-iction on an issue while it is still eing debated.

Enthusiasm is needed if a church fficer is to be useful to the full ex-ent of his capacity. Defeatism is just s contagious as enthusiasm and can aralyze the program of a church oard. If a man does not honestly eel that the work of the Christian Church is the most important and the most invincible work in the world, he had better let others take over the leadership.

(At this time call for the tabulation of the lists of qualifications of councilmen which were prepared by all members of the Brotherhood. The lists should have been collected at the very beginning of the meeting. If time permits, list on a blackboard the qualifications mentioned most frequently, and discuss that list.)

Choosing the Right Persons

If the membership on a church board is not to become self-perpetuating, two regulations seem necessary. The number of consecutive terms that a man may serve should be limited by statute, and nominations should be made by a committee chosen by the congregation and including no members of the board. It is a good practice to keep attendance records at board meetings and to make them available to nominating committees,

Worship

ymn: "God Himself Is Present"
–No. 424 C.S.B., or No. 309 P.S.H.
cripture: Acts 6:1-7.
rayer
pecial Music
ymn: "Zion Stands with Hills Surrounded"
–No. 200 C.S.B., or No. 133 P.S.H.
opic
ymn: "Abide With Us, Our Savior"
–No. 433 C.S.B., or No. 318 P.S.H.
rayer, including the Lord's Prayer
enediction
us'ness
ellowship and Refreshments

Topic Aims

1. To examine the duties of church councilmen, as set forth in the constitution of the local congregation and in the Order for Installation of Councilmen.
2. To discover how the church council is organized, and what the functions of its standing committees are.
3. To discover whether the church council's sphere of active service should be broadened, or whether it should delegate larger responsibilities to committees.
4. To inquire whether the church council has become largely a self-perpetuating body, whether it is stratified, or whether it is throughly representative of the membership of the congregation.
5. To lead members of the Brotherhood to assume their full reesponsibilities as members of the congregation and lend assistance in any phase of the congregation's program where their talents are needed.

so that those who persistently fail to attend meetings may be eliminated when their terms expire.

To make the board as representative as possible, nominating committees will do well to suggest candidates from various age brackets, and from both newer and older members. If members of the parish are scattered, geographical distribution may also be considered. It is questionable whether several members of a family should be on the board simultaneously, though there may be good reasons in special instances. It is a common criticism that "one family runs the church," and every means should be taken to remove any possible reasons for such a charge.

Recruitment for the Future

A wise pastor and congregation will look far ahead in planning the program of the parish. This will include preparing future church officers. Sunday-school teachers should on occasion suggest to their boys the honor involved in being chosen to a church board, and point out in general terms what a church officer is expected to do. Something similar to a Junior Chamber of Commerce may be instituted by having a Junior Church Board. It will become a kind of training school for prospective board members.

October 16 is Brotherhood Sunday

Spiritual Life

Church officers are chosen on the basis of their Christian character and leadership qualities. They are expected to be examples to their fello members. A family altar in the homes is taken for granted. Whe special evangelism programs are in tiated, it is natural for them to be the vanguard of the visitation team Witnessing for Christ, both by pr cept and conduct, they are ever reac to extend the wholesome influence the church in the community.

A church board is responsible f the educational program of t parish, although the actual work ma be done largely by a Board of Chr tian Education, which is appoint by the church board. Members of t church board should familiarize the selves with the work of the Sunda school, vacation church school, a weekday church school. It should a prove all teachers who serve on t staffs of these schools, and all stu and teaching materials that are use The congregation's program of Chr tian education includes also the wo of auxiliaries and the program leadership education. An alert chur board will have a part in promoti such education too.

Stewardship Promotion

In normal situations more time given by the board to the finances the church than any other phase the activities. There is the perenni problem of securing funds for cu rent expenses and for improvemen and expansion. An efficient boa makes sure that all bills are pa promptly, and that the congregati is kept informed about all transa tions and about unmet obligation Nothing is ever gained by keeping t

st of the congregation in ignorance
out distressing financial problems.
discerning board takes the consti-
ency into its confidence on all
sues facing the church, for in that
ay it can best promote sympathetic
operation. It will make sure that
operties are in good repair, for in-
lligent churchmen know that
rangers will not have much faith
a congregation that takes no pride
its own plant.

Far more important than keeping
e treasury well filled is the matter
training the congregation in stew-
dship. When the very young as well
the adults are led to appreciate
e privilege of having a share in
od's enterprises throughout the
orld, and of giving in proportion
income, they will not have to be
erced or flattered into giving.

Church officers can do much to in-
ire others to eager participation in
e extra-congregational responsibili-
es of their denomination through
ch means as parish papers, every
ember visitations, and occasional
emple talks."

hey Develop Public Relations

No successful church exists in a
cuum. Church members will do
tle to extend the kingdom if they
joy fine music, impressive preach-
g, and cordial fellowship all by
emselves, and "let the rest of the
orld go by." The church has a re-
onsibility to the community. It is
portant that the activities of the
ngregation be brought to the favor-
le attention of unchurched neigh-
rs, so that they may feel an urge

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to "come along." Councilmen can do much to establish good relations with the press and with radio and television managers, so that the church may become better known for its vital Christian message and its friendly concern for others. Such public relations do not involve a compromise of conviction. They merely make better known what our convictions are. It is surprising how many of the unchurched prefer to join a church that stands for definite teachings rather than one that has no clear confessional position.

Support the King's Men Program

Church officers should be the representatives of the church at large in the local group. Decisions of the denomination will be respected and followed in a parish if the church board recognizes its responsibility in this matter. The happiest congregations—indeed the most prosperous ones—are those that invariably do their part in the church-wide ventures of the denomination.

Committees Do the Work

Effective administration is assured by dividing the board into standing committees, each committee to report on its work at every regular meeting. With limited and specialized tasks

assigned to it, a committee can analyze a problem or evaluate a proposed undertaking and then provide the whole board with expert knowledge of the advantages or disadvantages involved. Such a committee will concentrate on the tasks assigned and from time to time will suggest new departures and activities at board meetings. Members of the church also find it convenient to know exactly whom to approach regarding problems and possibilities that occur to them. The number of committees needed will depend on the activities in which a church is interested and to some degree on the size of the congregation. The important consideration is that each committee recognizes its responsibility for its particular department.

The Congregation Is Informed

A church board not only requires regular reports from its committees, but it shares the reports with the rest of the church membership. At congregational meetings it seeks to give as complete a picture of the state of the congregation as possible. It provides the denomination with accurate statistics, and together with the pastor is accountable for keeping and preserving the parochial records. A regular audit of the membership lists will be made by the board, and it is also expected to check up on delinquents. Many people become indifferent members, not because they have actually decided to give up going to church, but because nobody seems to care.

Church Officers Are Learners

A person who "knows all the answers" before he is ever elected to the board should not be elected. Methods and problems of church work are constantly changing, and capable church administrators are constantly learning. It is a splendid practice to have a period of study in connection with regular meetings. Special study books have been prepared by some of our Lutheran groups for this very purpose.

Membership on a church board affords a fine opportunity for self-discipline. A person cannot always have his way. There are others whose opinions have to be respected, and sometimes they are in the majority. To be able to champion a cause earnestly, and then yield to the prevailing opposition without rancor, is a real achievement. People who always get their way are never really happy. Victory gained by sheer suppression of other men's opinions costs far too much. A board member who learns these facts will be both a better man and a better church officer.

Harmony Is the Goal

A congregation is about as good as its church board. If the church officers are earnestly concerned about the welfare of the parish, taking seriously their responsibility for the care of souls and the care of properties, and if they strive to co-operate with each other in Christian considerateness, the congregation is likely to be united and enthusiastic. Such church officers will not fail to invite criti-

ism from other members of the church, and they will bend every effort to make all the parishioners feel that they are an integral part of the organization. It is a great blessing to have a board consisting of such men, and a delight to hear the pastor and other members say, "We have an excellent group of church officers."

(NOTE: Be sure to call for the following reports of committees if they were appointed:

1. The representative of your own church council who was asked to describe duties of board members and the difficulties most frequently faced.

2. The members of the Brotherhood who were asked to study the administrative structure of neighboring churches.)

For Study and Discussion

1. What are the most essential qualifications of a church officer?

2. How should church officers be chosen?

3. What are the advantages and disadvantages in limiting the number of terms that a church officer may serve?

4. Why should the church board be responsible for the general supervision of the program and personnel of the church schools and the auxiliaries and organizations of the congregation?

5. What responsibility does the church board have for developing the practice of stewardship by all members? How can it discharge this duty?

6. On the basis of your study of the congregation's constitution and the Order for Installation of Councilmen, what standing committees should the church board have, and what are their specific functions?

7. How do the standing committees of our congregation and the duties assigned to them compare with the organizational set-up of other Lutheran congregations?

Suggestions for Action

1. If your congregational constitution does not provide for a limitation of consecutive terms of board members, give consideration to the advisability of such a provision. If it seems desirable, take the necessary steps to amend the constitution.

2. Find out who the board members are whose terms expire this year, and whether or not they are eligible for re-election. Then give thought to who might render the most effective service on the church board and take appropriate steps. This should be done only on the individual basis, not as a concerted action by the Brotherhood as an organization.

3. Give consideration to the advisability of having a Junior Church Board. If it seems desirable in the local situation, take appropriate steps.

4. Find out from your church board what the Brotherhood can do to assist in stewardship promotion and then take vigorous action.

5. In co-operation with the church council develop a public relations strategy and take whatever steps may be necessary to carry it out.

(assignment on next page)

Olde English Mince Meat

ALTHOUGH, like plum pudding, a popular winter holiday favorite, Sexton Mince Meat is so wholesome and nutritious that it finds a welcome spot on the daily menu. The singularly delicious flavor and smooth consistency of Sexton Olde English have made it a universal favorite.

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"All One Body We" Assignments for the December (Twelfth) Meeting

The local Lutheran congregation is not an isolated unit cut off from all other congregations. It is a member of a Lutheran conference, synod, general body, the National Lutheran Council, the Lutheran World Federation, and has relationships with the Christian church throughout the world. As a climax to the year's study the world-wide mission of the congregation will be stressed at the next Brotherhood meeting. In preparation for that meeting every member of the Brotherhood should do two things:

1. List the names of the officers of your synod or conference or district, and your national church body.

2. List as many benefits as possible tha come to your congregation through (a) th synod or conference or district, (b) the na tional church body, (c) international Luthe anism.

Do not fail to appoint the usual committee

1. Someone to have charge of worshi
2. Someone to present a brief summar of the topic.
3. Someone to lead the discussion an to point up the practical outcomes that shoul result from the meeting.

October 16 is Brotherhood Sunday

"Martin Luther" in Montreal

The Martin Luther film, banne 18 months ago by the Quebec Boar of Cinema Censors, was shown t capacity audiences simultaneousl by 11 Protestant churches of th Montreal area on successive night beginning May 30.

On the first night of the schedule one-week presentation, an est mated 5,000 attended, and accordin to ushers at the doors, almost a many were turned away for lack o room. Almost all the churches wer packed 15 to 20 minutes before th service began. The film was presen ed by the congregations as part o a service of worship.

Support the King's Men Program

A Lot of Money

Contributions to Lutheran Worl Action over the past 16 years—fro 1939 through 1954— have reached grand total of $39,978,429 fro members of the eight church bodi participating in the National L theran Council.

Martin Luther Film Now Available In 16-MM. Form

The Martin Luther film is now available in 16-mm. form for churches, schools, libraries and organizations. Cost of the 4,000 feet of film is $150 during the "introductory trial offer" period which is guaranteed only through November 30 of this year. This one-hour and 45-minute film is the same as the original, with nothing deleted or re-edited. Prints may be bought direct from Lutheran Church Productions, Inc., 35 West 35th St., New York 36, N. Y. The film cannot be rented.

●

The Sad Ink Drops

Three little ink drops were crying because their mother was in the pen, and they didn't know how long the sentence was going to be.

Typical Boy

Kindly old Gentleman: "Well, well! So you're ten years old. Then you go to school, naturally?"

Boy: "Like heck I do! Sure I go to school, sister, but not naturally!"

—Nuggets

Point of View

"My husband is an efficiency expert in a large office."

"What does an efficiency expert do?"

"Well, if we women did it, they'd call it nagging."

—Nuggets

Sure Prediction

"I can tell you the exact score of the opening game in the World series before it starts."

"G'wan! But I'll bite. What will it be?"

"Nothing to nothing—before it starts."

—Nuggets

Just so it Gets There

Bessie had a new dime to invest in an ice cream cone.

"Why don't you give your dime to foreign missions?" asked the pastor, who was visiting.

"I thought about that," said Bessie, "but I think I'll buy the ice cream and let the druggist give it to foreign missions."

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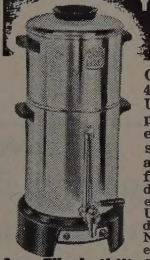

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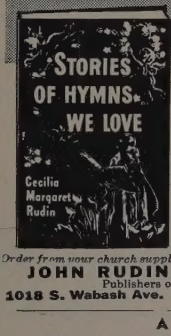
Anna Elizabeth Wade, 0000 Tyree St., Lynchburg, Va.

LM—No. 1927

"Stories of Hymns We Love"



By Cecilia Margaret Rudin, M. A.

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A New Twist

The editor was interviewing an applicant: "How would you write a good headline for the following situation? A young couple got a preacher out of bed at 3 a. m. to marry them. How would you title that?"

"Oh, that's easy," said the youth. "I'd just head it 'Parson Ties Knot in His Shirttail.'"

—Wall Street Journal

Or how about a headline for this situation: Eager woman tricks her no-good lover into marrying her at 3 a. m.

"Early Bird Catches Worm"

Good Embouchure

"How is it that you can kiss so divinely?"

Oh, I used to play the trumpet in the college band."

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